

**XENIA CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL SESSION MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 22, 2018
5:00 P.M.**

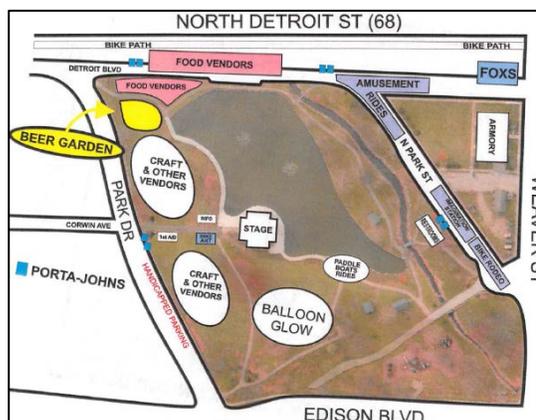
- 1. CALL TO ORDER:** President Michael Engle called the March 22, 2018, Special Session to order at 5:17 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, City Administration Building.
- 2. ROLL CALL:** Vice President Edgar Wallace (arrived at 5:57 p.m.), Councilman Thomas Scrivens, Councilman Dale Louderback, Councilman Wesley Smith (arrived at 6:13 p.m.), Councilman Levi Dean, Mayor Sarah Mays, and President Michael Engle were present.
- 3. DISCUSSION:** City Manager Brent Merriman said staff wishes to address several topics this evening.

Alcohol at Special Events: Mr. Merriman said last year, City Council authorized a pilot program under very strict regulations to allow a beer tent as a new edition at the Community Festival. He talked to Alan Liming, President/CEO of the Xenia Area Chamber of Commerce, who requested that this be explored again for the 2018 event. He noted that Council has no obligation to allow a beer tent again this year, but he needs to present the question so he can respond to the request. Therefore, he was seeking a more permanent recommendation from Council to direct staff to draft legislation to authorize limited sales of alcohol for limited events with specific conditions.

Mr. Merriman said Mr. Liming could not attend the meeting but Chrissy Roundtree and Mary Burr from the Chamber Planning Committee were present to answer any questions Council may have about their request. Police Chief Randy Person was also present, noting that Sgt. Beegle coordinated this event last year. He noted everything went well last year, no problems were reported, and staff endorses the request with Council's approval.

Mr. Merriman distributed the maps shown regarding changes for 2018 that include a request to move the site closer to the food trucks, noting that a white picket fence will serve as a double barrier around the perimeter of the beer garden. Staff also endorses this request.

Councilman Louderback said things seemed to run very well last year and asked if Nick's Restaurant would be running the beer garden again this year. Ms. Roundtree said yes; however, they took a loss on the food so they will only provide the beer. Councilman Louderback said sales should increase if it is located closer to the food trucks. He supports the request.



Ms. Roundtree noted many people did not realize the beer garden was there because it was located on the opposite side of the park from the food trucks. She noted that Sgt. Beegle served on the planning committee and was very helpful in offering recommendations, including moving the beer garden closer to the food trucks. Mr. Merriman noted that Sgt. Beegle also serves on the Fair Board for events at the Fairgrounds, and he was very confident in his knowledge and opinions on these matters.

Mayor Mays asked who was in charge of checking identification cards. Ms. Roundtree said Nick's employees checked IDs using a portable ID scanner, which was recommended by Sgt. Beegle. The scanner checks for fake IDs and verifies legal drinking ages. Further, there are two barriers for patrons to pass through before they are able to purchase beer.

Mayor Mays asked if the goal of the beer garden was to increase festival attendance. Ms. Roundtree said generally attendance increased last year. She noted the attendance gets better every year and the committee's goal is to keep expanding the festival. She noted that almost all area festivals offer alcohol including the Yellow Springs Street Fair and Sugarcreek's Ohio Swiss Festival. Ms. Burr said no negative comments were received—only positive comments. Mr. Merriman asked Ms. Roundtree and Ms. Burr if they would consider asking Devil Wind Brewery to be a partner. Ms. Roundtree said yes. She also noted that this year's beer garden area will be half the size of last year's area.

Ms. Roundtree said she wants the beer garden area to look as nice as possible. She also noted that it helped that Nick's had a TV on last year broadcasting the Ohio State football game. Ms. Burr said this is the 8th Community Festival at Shawnee Park. Mr. Scrivens asked if there were any incidents at all. Ms. Roundtree said there was not even one. Chief Person noted that a uniformed police officer was assigned to the festival and was present also.

Councilman Dean asked if people were allowed to leave the beer garden with their alcoholic beverages. Chief Person said that is a licensing issue; due to their liquor license, the alcohol can only be consumed in the controlled, designated area otherwise they would have to monitor the entire park. Ms. Burr said the other alternative is to make the entire festival 21 and over, which they obviously do not want to do. Mr. Merriman said as discussions occurred with the planning committee, everyone is open to adjusting things as needed to provide a better experience for everybody.

President Engle asked if anybody heard any other comments—positive or negative.

Mayor Mays said she heard some negative comments about the beer garden. Mostly, people were disappointed that alcohol was present at a family event and generally just did not feel it was necessary. Ms. Burr said she believed the festival was still family friendly. President Engle asked Mayor Mays if she knew of anyone who did not attend the festival due to the presence of beer. Mayor Mays said she knew of one person who did not attend.

President Engle said he supports the request. He felt the beer garden was ran very well last year, and with the proposed changes, things will be better this year.

Councilman Louderback asked if there was any interest in bringing the festival downtown. Ms. Roundtree said no, which is due to several reasons, but mainly it is because the electric and structural infrastructure do not exist downtown to support the event. Further, the YMCA partners with them for a field day event, and obviously, they couldn't have paddleboats downtown. Therefore, they are keeping the event at the park. Mr. Merriman agreed it would be very difficult to hold the event downtown for the reasons stated as well as other logistics including shutting the streets down and re-routing traffic. He noted electrical changes are needed to support First Fridays. DP&L has evaluated the downtown electrical engineering and determined the downtown transformer feed sources are undersized, and unfortunately, it would cost a lot of money to upgrade that infrastructure.

President Engle said Councilman Smith regretted that he was going to be late to the meeting, but he did express his support for the request.

Mr. Merriman said it seems as if Council has provided a simple majority; therefore, staff will work on bringing legislation forward at a future meeting.

Over-the-Street Banners: Mr. Merriman said last year Council voted to hold the fee in abeyance for one year. He noted they regularly do not receive an overwhelming number of requests each year, which in turn did not impact revenue. However, they need to establish a policy that is equitable and fair with regard to the type of events that would be approved for an over-the-street banner. Further, they need to determine a fee, if any.

<p>City Manager's Office</p>	<p>Street banner application fee</p>	<p>\$150.00 This fee has been waived for a one-year period effective 2-1-2017</p>
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President Engle asked about the current policy or law for these banners. Law Director Donnette Fisher said the City controls access of the streets. In regard to charging a fee, if a banner falls, the City is liable and could result in an insurance claim and payout. A fee would help offset the cost of the insurance. Further, the City has the right to limit the type of banner to one that advertises an event that is open to the public or community-wide events versus a commercial purpose. President Engle asked if they should establish a group or list to include educational institutions, non-profits, etc. Ms. Fisher said she did not recommend establishing a list of specific entities; rather, they should focus on the purpose of the event, such as not for profit community events, educational events, government organizations, etc. Council should set the overall policy with regard to what would be allowed, and the City Manager could regulate the parameters, such as setting a display limitation to two weeks.

Mayor Mays commented about the area universities' over-the-street banners to congratulate graduates, etc. Ms. Fisher said that banner would be okay because it is for an educational institution. She noted the policy has to be broad enough so they are not controlling or regulating the message.

Councilman Louderback asked about the current procedure. Mr. Merriman said the fee schedule dictates the fee, but there are very few parameters. The City's insurance company required that certain specifications are met so the banner could withstand a certain wind load, and the requestor

must demonstrate that those specifications have been met. Other than that, the requestor submits the application and fee, staff ensures the dates requested are available, and they go from there. He noted regular banner requests are received for the Mayor's Prayer Breakfast, Rotary Pancake Day, Old Timer's Days, Greene County Fair, CSU, First Fridays, and the Community Festival, along with a few other incidental requests. Mayor Mays said Legacy High School has had banners up in the past. Mr. Merriman agreed. Historically, staff has not had any problems with any past requests, but he felt a policy was needed to protect the City's interests.

Mr. Scrivens asked if the City has had any liability issues in the past. Mr. Merriman said a banner fell once and there was some damage to a car, which was covered by insurance. He said the entity must have a \$1 million indemnification to serve as a layer of protection on top of the City's insurance. He noted the Public Service Department employees are not fans of these signs because the signs are not load-tested for durability, wind resistance, etc. Councilman Louderback said he has noticed holes in some of the signs to allow the wind to pass through. Mr. Merriman agreed, which are required as part of the newer standards.

Mayor Mays asked if the size of the lettering could be regulated because some signs are very hard to read. Mr. Merriman said staff has offered some guidance in the past. Ms. Fisher said design guidelines could be established to require that the letters be a certain height.

President Engle asked if his fellow councilmembers supported over-the-street banners for certain events, if they need design standards, and if they should charge a fee.

Mayor Mays felt they should charge a fee. President Engle asked for feedback on how much the fee should be and what types of banners should be permitted. Mayor Mays said educational events and community events that are open to the public should be permitted. Mr. Merriman said "community events" is too broad. He noted that not for profit community events should also be included. Ms. Fisher said they should say "registered charitable organizations" rather than not-for-profit. She noted governmental signs should also be included.

Mr. Scrivens asked about a sign welcoming Hamvention. Mayor Mays said that would qualify as a government-sponsored banner. Mr. Merriman said they should also consider adding events that are sponsored or co-sponsored by the City. Chief Person suggested they mirror the exemptions that exist for solicitor's permits, which are religious, charitable, educational or nonprofit community service groups and organizations per Codified Ordinance Chapter 850.

Mr. Merriman asked how much the application fee should be. He noted it is currently \$150. Mr. Scrivens felt that \$100 was reasonable, but \$150 was too much. However, when considering insurance, he suggested a \$125 fee.

President Engle asked the City's minimum cost to hang and remove the banners. Mr. Merriman said it takes two employees a minimum of 30 minutes plus the use of a city truck in addition to administrative staff review. He was not suggesting they set a fee at a level where they recoup all costs, and he did not feel a \$100 fee was too low. Councilman Scrivens said the fee could be increased later if necessary.

Mayor Mays said there is value in what you pay for, and she believed \$100 was very reasonable.

Mr. Duke said if there is a fee, inevitably, some will ask for the fee to be waived. He asked if the City Manager should have the ability to waive that fee. President Engle said no; he felt that would be doing a disservice to the City Manager. Mr. Merriman said likewise; he didn't want to have to pick and choose when to waive the fee.

Councilman Scrivens asked if the fee was returned if the banner was not approved. Mr. Duke said yes, which is how they handle special event application fees.

Councilman Dean agreed with the \$100 fee, especially if it is returned if the banner is not approved.

Councilman Scrivens asked if the city provides the specifications and the groups provide the banners. Mr. Merriman said yes. He said staff would draft some legislation with general parameters along with the ability for him (as City Manager) to establish a policy that includes some administrative control. Ms. Fisher said the City Manager should be directed to establish and adjust design standards as needed.

Use of Public Space for Special Events: Mr. Merriman said very little legislative guidance exists for this issue. As an example, for the last five years, staff has only charged people to rent the pavilion at Shawnee Park and the classroom at Xenia Station; however, at times people want to use the entire area at Shawnee Park, but he cannot tell them they can use the entire park when the other shelters are on a first come, first served basis. The purpose of this discussion is to establish a policy direction for events of all scopes and scale, such as the Community Festival, 5K walk/runs, birthday parties, weddings, reunions, corporate picnics, etc., noting that they need to consider non-profit events and for-profit events. He noted some events require a special event permit. Further, the City may incur quite a bit of costs with some events with regard to staff costs, restroom facilities, electricity, maintenance, etc.

(Vice President Wallace arrived at 5:57 p.m.)

President Engle asked if they needed to consider different levels of reservations for the entire park or single components thereof. Further, he asked if they need a fee structure for for-profit entities. Mr. Merriman felt they should veer away from for-profit entities, because once that door is open, it is wide open. Mr. Duke said an event could be neither non-profit nor for-profit. Mayor Mays said a wedding is neither. President Engle felt a wedding should be considered a non-profit event.

Councilman Louderback asked the Law Director for some direction. Ms. Fisher said they need to consider the activity. The City can say no to a "for profit" entity with regard to use of public land. However, if the city co-sponsors an event, such as a car show, that is another matter. Mayor Mays asked if a business picnic would be okay. Ms. Fisher said yes, because that is an activity. Councilman Louderback felt that could be a gray area.

Mayor Mays asked about weddings. Mr. Merriman said he could draft language to allow them, noting that the fee is relatively cheap. They have not had any problems with weddings in the past. Assistant City Manager Jared Holloway said sometimes people rent the pavilion for an event, such as a wedding, but the rest of the park is available for public use. He said people take their chances, but he asked if they should consider the ability to close the park for an event. Mr. Merriman said there is no easy solution, but they want to be fair.

Councilman Louderback asked about the rental fees for non-profits. Mr. Merriman said the fees are “flat” fees that any applicant would pay. He then reviewed the current fee structure for residents and non-residents. Mr. Duke noted that events where more than 250 people are expected require a special permit fee in addition to any rental fees. President Engle asked the amount of the special permit fee. Mr. Duke said it is \$50. Mr. Merriman noted a special event request is reviewed by the City Manager’s Office, Police, Fire, and Public Service.

President Engle felt they should maintain the current fee structure and steer away from for-profit entities. Due to the complexities associated with for-profit entities, he felt they should exclude them at this time.

Mr. Merriman said he and Ms. Fisher would review and tweak this as they take a closer look.

Mayor Mays said she did not want to inhibit the public’s use of the parks, especially the new Splash Pad.

President Engle said language should be included that the City Manager cannot waive the fee(s).

Parking Enforcement: Mr. Merriman said the final topic was concerning Parking Enforcement. He said Ms. Fisher has already started to draft legislative changes because there are several conflicting ordinances. He said the downtown area has changed dramatically and some current language contradicts itself. Basically, the City’s code on parking is a confusing mess. Further, at Council’s last meeting, they had to pass an ordinance to establish a 15-minute parking zone, which should be able to be done administratively. He said staff has had many discussions about the needed changes. He then reviewed their goals for the code rewrite and outlined the key issues as follows:

- A. Consolidate/clarify authority for parking designations (Public Safety Director)
- B. Piloting a Solution for Better Enforcement-Parking Bureau Proposal
 - o Legal necessity—need a system that meets statutory and case law limitations
 - o Lack of accountability—current system lacks ability to ensure ultimate enforcement; write-offs are major problem
 - o Overview of Parking Bureau structure and process
 - o Staffing and financial implications—JobsOhio position during pilot period
- C. Increasing and standardizing parking penalties: \$20?
- D. Other service enhancements and system needs to explore
 - o Flexible payment options: taking payments at either CAB or Justice Center; On-line payments through City portal
 - o Lot Designations and Meters
 - Major lots: change from 2 hours to 3 hours
 - Meters in front of Justice Center from 30 minutes to 2 hours
 - Use of meters overall
- E. Other major system needs
 - o Facility expansions-postpone plans on acquisitions
 - o Improve signage and marketing

Ms. Fisher said per item A. above, she wants to amend the Public Safety Chapter of the Code to mirror ORC Section 737.022(B) that includes giving the Public Safety Director the authority to make and issue rules and regulations on the following:

- (1) The number, type, and location of traffic control devices and signs;

- (2) The regulation or prohibition of parking on public ways or public property;
- (3) The regulation of the right-of-way at intersections of streets, alleys, and highways;
- (4) The regulation or prohibition of turns at intersections;
- (5) The creation, abolition, and regulation of through routes and truck routes;
- (6) The creation, abolition, and regulation of pedestrian crosswalk and safety zones;
- (7) The creation, abolition, and regulation of bus loading and unloading zones and business loading zones;
- (8) The creation, abolition, and regulation of traffic lanes, and passing zones;
- (9) The regulation of the direction of traffic on public ways and the creation and abolition of one way public streets, roads, alleys, courts, or drives;
- (10) Such other subjects as may be provided by ordinance, which shall not be limited by the specific enumeration of subjects by this section.

(Councilman Smith arrived at 6:13 p.m.)

Ms. Fisher said she reviewed the entire Traffic Code and discovered parking was addressed in three separate chapters with some things based on State Law and some on local laws. Per ORC 4511.06, if something is regulated by state law, the city cannot have a law that conflicts with state law unless a non-criminal parking violation bureau is established. Currently, a criminal violation is written on a long form by a uniformed law enforcement officer and the person is required to appear in court and it goes on his/her record. A non-criminal violation is written on a short form by the Parking Enforcement Officer and the person does not have to appear in court. To have a system that meets case law and statutory guidelines, they have to choose criminal or non-criminal citations, but not both. They can choose to make all parking violations non-criminal, but right now, the penalty amounts are different depending on where the vehicle is parked.

Councilman Louderback asked if it is Council's discretion to set the penalty amount. Ms. Fisher said for non-criminal penalties, Council can set the penalty amount by ordinance because they are civil penalties and not criminal penalties. She noted this subject is not just about downtown parking; there are also right-of-way violations for washing cars in the street, junk vehicles parked on the street, etc. Once the penalty amount is set, a graduated penalty can be set, i.e., after 30 days the amount increases. If Council chooses to have a non-criminal penalty, a parking bureau would need to be created.

Mr. Merriman said Police Division and Finance Department staff looked at collections from January 1 through March 16, 2018, and 327 citations were issued totaling \$4,225 in charges. However, only \$2,980 has been collected to date, which is 67 percent. He noted the vast majority of the citations were for meter violations, which are only \$5 tickets. He noted that amount is significantly lower than the regional average.

Councilman Louderback asked if the City still employs only one Parking Enforcement Officer. Mr. Merriman said yes; however, there used to be two part-time positions, but they recently consolidated it into one full-time position. The Enforcement Officer works Monday through Friday during normal business hours, but if he is off for any reason, then there is no parking enforcement. He said a key issue is the inability to hold parking violators accountable. He would just like to break even in the Parking Enforcement Fund. Currently, if a violator does not pay a non-criminal ticket, a total of three letters are mailed, and if the ticket is still not paid, it is written off. Violations

written against State law are criminal; violations written against local laws are not criminal violations, and there is nothing they can do if the tickets are not paid.

Ms. Fisher said with the creation of a parking bureau, a non-criminal violation could be sent to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and violators with unpaid tickets would not be able to renew their vehicle registrations until their tickets are paid. Nothing will appear on their records, but there would be a consequence to an unpaid ticket.

Mayor Mays asked what most communities do with regard to parking violations. Mr. Merriman said it is difficult to say. Ms. Fisher said every city handles parking violations differently. She cited a federal case from Port Clinton, and she feels if most cities were aware of that case, they would issue non-criminal parking violations and use a parking bureau.

Mr. Merriman said they are trying to present solutions that help fund the function. They do not want to transfer funds from the General Fund into the Parking Fund to cover expenses. One goal is to break even. Another goal is to hold people accountable. Currently, if a person does not want to pay a ticket, it is not paid. A Parking Bureau would provide the due process for those who believe they did not deserve a ticket at all. Ms. Fisher said if all parking citations were non-criminal, it would be easier for officers. Currently, if officers write a long-form citation, they have to track down the owner of the vehicle—they cannot leave a long-form ticket on a vehicle. However, a short-form parking citation can be left on a vehicle. Chief Person said someone with expired tags would probably rather pay a \$20 ticket rather than have to appear in court and pay over \$100 dollars. A \$20 ticket is a friendly reminder in an effort to obtain compliance, and a Parking Bureau would provide a due process.

Councilman Scrivens asked about tickets for vehicles parked along a painted yellow curb, on sidewalks, etc. Ms. Fisher said a Parking Bureau would handle all those tickets.

Mayor Mays asked if the Police Chief and staff agreed with the concept of creating a Parking Bureau. Mr. Merriman said yes, but there are a few drawbacks. As with any bureaucratic process, someone needs to manage the process. Under this structure, an administrative hearing officer is required, and they could easily hire a retired officer or lawyer for a few hours a month at minimal cost, but they also need to consider the need for clerical support. A part-time clerical position could be added at the Justice Center to support the Parking Bureau and also provide some customer service. In addition, there is currently a part-time position at the Justice Center that is paid through JobsOhio that could be utilized to see how the process works. Staff hopes to increase compliance to recoup expenses and also pay for the part-time salary once the JobsOhio position expires.

Councilman Louderback did not feel all expenses would be recouped through this process, noting that the parking enforcement officer's salary alone is \$30,000 and it was stated that only \$2,980 was collected so far this year. Mr. Duke noted they also receive revenue from the meters along with other revenue coming into the fund. Mr. Merriman agreed but noted the model will probably not be revenue neutral. However, he recommended they implement the program and utilize the "free" part-time JobsOhio employee for clerical support. Ms. Fisher said if this concept does not work, they could always change the parking violations back to criminal charges.

Councilman Scrivens asked if any local colleges have interns who could help out. Mr. Merriman said probably, but for long-term goals, they would rather hire an employee because interns have

to be trained and are not as efficient as a tenured employee. They currently have a good opportunity to launch the program with a “free” employee on board, and as Ms. Fisher said, if it did not work, changes could be made.

Mr. Duke said based on the last three years of financial records, the revenue in the Parking Fund has offset employee and operating costs.

President Engle said if this strategy helps to deal with unsightly vehicles, junk cars, etc., it would make this community better.

Mr. Merriman showed an overview of the downtown area and discussed the changes to be made with completion of the Downtown Safety Project to include the removal of some metered parking, which happen to be the most profitable meters. With that said, staff is not ready to request broad investment and metering for all downtown street parking. However, they need to consider other locations to install meters to generate and/or replace that revenue.

Mayor Mays said when this issue was presented to the Traffic Commission last year, she thought the non-criminal tickets would eventually be handled by that body. She asked if that was no longer the case. Ms. Fisher concurred; now, a Parking Bureau would be established.

Councilman Louderback asked who would pay for the lawyer or retired police officer to serve as the hearing officer for the Parking Bureau. Ms. Fisher said the city would pay those expenses; however, per the ORC, if the person loses, the hearing costs could be assessed back to the person. Councilman Louderback asked if the hearing officer would be paid a salary. Mr. Merriman said they would be paid on a contractual basis for only a few hours per month. Councilman Louderback felt the city would lose money with this concept. Councilman Scrivens said they have to make the citations either criminal or non-criminal. President Engle felt they should give the concept a try. Mr. Merriman said nobody wants to see something that costs more money than it brings in. However, revenues are diminishing in the Parking Fund, and enforcement equals accountability and right now, it is very easy to manipulate the system. He explained that currently, the Parking Enforcement Officer goes out and marks tires. Violators know the system and literally go and physically move their vehicles as little as a few inches to avoid getting a ticket. He understands nobody likes parking meters, but they are much more effective.

Mayor Mays recognized they would have to pay a little more to ensure accountability; otherwise, they will continue to lose money if no changes are made. Mr. Duke said if all parking tickets were criminal charges, they would be further in red with regard to revenues vs. expenses. Ms. Fisher said if all tickets were criminal, the penalty would be set by the Judge. Chief Person said if all tickets were criminal, they could not use the current Parking Enforcement Officer; instead, a sworn officer would need to write all the tickets and the employee expense would go from \$30,000 per year to \$100,000 per year including all benefits.

Mr. Merriman said the downtown stakeholders have continued to express that they wish to see more consistent parking enforcement. They currently only have one person monitoring all the parking lots and meters, collecting the money from the meters, managing parking permits, etc. Chief Person noted that the Parking Enforcement Officer is a retired XPD Officer, and he is very fair and personable and has established a great working relationship with downtown business owners and operators.

Councilman Scrivens felt they should offer an incentive if a violator pays the ticket early, such as a 50% discount. Mr. Duke said currently if a \$5 ticket is paid within five days, it is only a \$5 ticket. If they wait beyond that timeframe, the ticket price goes up, which is why many people immediately come in to pay the ticket. However, if the ticket is not paid right away and it still is not paid after three letters are sent, then it is written off.

President Engle felt they should move forward and try this new concept while utilizing a free resource. Mr. Merriman said they would have 4 to 5 months to try it, and afterward, they can recommend changes if there is a diminishing return.

Mr. Duke said an important piece of the puzzle still needed to be determined, which is how much to charge for the ticket. He noted that currently some tickets are \$5 and some are \$20. He believes all tickets should be \$20.

President Engle asked if a motion was needed or just a direction given. Ms. Fisher said staff is seeking some direction. She noted staff has been talking about this for several months, and she has already rewritten six chapters of the code. However, before those are presented to Council, staff wanted to have a conversation about it.

President Engle entertained additional comments from Council members.

Mr. Scrivens said he would like to pursue the non-criminal route and see how it works. The fine should be \$20, but he suggested staggering the time with varied amounts starting at \$5 to get compliance. President Engle concurred with a ratcheted approach and suggested staff bring back other ideas to incentivize compliance. Ms. Fisher said if they go the non-criminal violation route, as a courtesy they have to file a request with the court to establish the Parking Violation Bureau.

Councilman Scrivens asked if a motion was necessary. President Engle said staff was seeking a general consensus and direction, and he believes they have provided that.

Mr. Merriman said staff is not making a recommendation at this time regarding a broader implementation of meters, but as previously mentioned, they need to adjust meters along Main Street near the Courthouse. In addition, the meters on Market Street between the Justice Center and the Courthouse are very old and in need of replacement. Another issue is they are 30-minute meters, and they really need to be two-hour meters. Ms. Fisher said those visiting the Justice Center are always there for longer than 30 minutes.

Mr. Merriman said regarding parking lots, the City currently leases Parking Lot 8, and staff has discussed purchasing the lot so the City would have permanent site control. They have also discussed purchasing additional adjacent property (parking lot and building), which would cost an estimated \$300,000 to \$400,000 dollars. Of course, he recognized the City could not afford that right now since their focus is on streets. Further recommendations and things to consider:

- Changing the parking time limit from two hours to three hours in Parking Lots 8, 7, and 2.
- Changes for permitted parking (with a purchased placard) and establish a flat rate for a certain number of parking spaces for permit holders to allow business employees to park for a longer period.

